



St Michael's Nursery and Infant School

Newsletter – January 2025



Welcome Back to all of our families – old and new.

**All of the children (and staff) have settled back in and ready to start the first term of 2025!
Please take time to read the information below and we wish you all a very Happy New Year!**

Attendance and Punctuality:

Our overall whole school attendance up to date is 92% with a target of 95%. As always, we appreciate that some absence is not avoidable, but we do stress that, unless your child has a temperature above 38 degrees, sickness, diarrhoea or any other contagious illness, they should come into school. We have access to fresh drinking water throughout the day and they will always be wrapped up warm whilst playing outside.



We understand that medical appointments are like gold dust at the moment, but wherever possible, please try to arrange check-ups etc after school hours as this interrupts their learning time and schedule. Please call the school office and leave a message for us on 01900 608111 **BEFORE 9AM** if they will not be in school as we will need to carry out a welfare visit to your home address if we have no contact.

As you may all be aware, there has been significant changes to the Penalty Charges and Fines Framework which are enforced on to schools. A copy of this is located at the end of the newsletter and has also been shared on Class DoJo.

Punctuality is becoming an issue again. Please note – If your child is to miss registration in the morning or afternoon, **THIS IS ALSO CLASSED AS AN ABSENCE** as they have missed the register which goes against their attendance, so we must stress the importance of your child's punctuality as well as attendance as a whole. We would like to reiterate the importance of your child being in school on time for their own benefit and that of their peers. We aim to start learning as soon as registration is complete, but before this, we like the children to have some breakfast and a drink to ease into the day. Once one child is late, this then interrupts the routine that the children need. If your child is late, please come to the main entrance and sign them in with their name, date/time and reason for being late, as we need to record persistent lateness and if there are any patterns occurring.

We have also noticed more children being collected late at the end of their session, be it Tiny Teds, Nursery or main school. We must remind all parents that this then eats into the staff time, especially at lunch times, as this is their only break throughout the day.

If this happens, we may have to add them to Wrap Around Care which is chargeable.

Class	Opening times	Closing Times
Tiny Teds	Morning – 8.30am Afternoon – 12.15pm	Morning – 11.30am Afternoon – 3.15pm
Nursery	8.45am	Morning – 11.55am Teddy Bears – 1.30pm or 3.05pm
Reception	8.35am	3.15pm
Year 1	8.35am	3.15pm
Year 2	8.35am	3.15pm



St Michael's Nursery and Infant School

Newsletter – January 2025



As always, we do have Panda Club available from 8am-8.30am and Koala Club from 3.15pm-4.15pm for £2.00 for anyone that may need this. Please book via the SCO Pay app, or message the school office. This is not available for Tiny Teds.

Please refer to the attendance flyer that has been sent to all families with important dates and information. If you need another – please ask.



Safeguarding:

St Michael's Nursery and Infant School places a high level of importance on the welfare, protection and safeguarding of all its pupils. There are posters around school with useful numbers to contact if you are worried or concerned about a child or a family. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is our Head – Mrs Regan. Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) is Mrs Hudson – Reception Teacher and Early Years Lead.

Cumbria Safeguarding Hub: **0333 240 1727**

Please see the flyer that has been sent to all families. If you would like another – please ask.

Clothing:

Please ensure your child always comes to school in suitable outdoor clothing, including sturdy, practical shoes and coat. If you would like your child to have a spare pair of wellies and/or wet suit in school, please bring this in a separate bag with their name on.

Please ensure all other clothing is clearly labelled, especially jumpers and coats as these may be removed throughout the day and could easily get mixed up. If your child is prone to accidents or toilet training, please pack some extra clothing each day, just in case. If any spare clothing is used from school, please can this be washed and returned.



Online Safety:

Please can we remind all parents and carers to keep checking their child's privacy settings on any device they may use and amend accordingly should there be any concerns.



School Hub:

All parents **MUST** book their meals via School Hub if they stay for lunch (not Tiny Teds). Log in details have been sent to all families but if you require another, please let Miss Stagg know. To access the account, visit schoolhub.co.uk The account allows you to book up to three weeks in advance, but please try and book at least 1 week in advance so that Mrs Miller is able to make an accurate order for food. If your child is ill, please log on to the account and cancel their meal before 9.30am.

If you fail to choose a meal for your child, they will only be given a sandwich and fruit which may not be their preferred filling or choice. This also causes disruption at the time, as this child would not have their name on the screen for a ticket, which could cause a deal of upset. If you are struggling at all, please let me know as it is absolutely essential that they have a meal order in advance. The cut off for meal orders is 9.30am. This site is only used to choose meals, to book sessions (Nursery children) and/or pay, please use the SCO Pay app or contact the school office.



St Michael's Nursery and Infant School

Newsletter – January 2025



Supervising children:

It is your own responsibility to ensure that you are supervising your child(ren) before and after school in all areas of the yard AT ALL TIMES. This includes the community pantry, sensory garden and scooter bay. Both gates are open for school drop off and collection which increases the risk of a child escaping. The equipment is not designed for toddlers' safety, so please do not allow smaller children to use this without being closely monitored.



Smoking and Vaping

This is a polite reminder that we do not permit any smoking and/or vaping on school premises at any given time. This includes the path way leading up alongside the car park and Church yard. If you have a vape, please keep this secure as one was dropped on the yard which could've led to a child picking this up.

Tiny Teds (Little 2 Provision):

We still have availability to join our Tiny Teds within our new cabin. Please spread the word and get in touch. Please visit childcarechoices.gov.uk to check if your little one is entitled to 2-year old funding.



After School Clubs:

Club	Teacher	Class	First session	Last session	Time
U Dance	Miss Natalie	Year 1 and Year 2	Monday 13 th January	Monday 17 th March	3.15pm-4.15pm
Tennis	Coach David	Year 1 and Year 2	Tuesday 7 th January	Tuesday 11 th February	3.15pm – 4.15pm
Koala Club	Miss Blackmore	All children except Tiny Teds	Every day	Friday 14 th February	3.15pm-4.15pm

Please can we ask for full commitment for UDance as this is a whole performance that needs lots of practice and dedication. This applies to tennis too, as these places are limited. Thank you.



Appreciation:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Santa's Little Helpers – CFM Cash for Kids and Dunelm, Workington, for providing each child a wonderful gift over Christmas. We were blown away with their generosity and, as always, it is lovely to see the children's faces. We would also like to thank Bookers, Workington and Family Shopper, Station Road, for donating lots of advent calendars for all the children. It's this time of year that really shows the true community spirit we all share.

#TOGETHERWEGROW



St Michael's Nursery and Infant School

Newsletter – January 2025



Governor Vacancy:

We currently have two governor vacancies within school. One being a parent governor and another as a co-opted governor. Our Governing Body play a vital role in the running of our school and provide us with an abundance of knowledge, feedback and ideas. If you would like to become a parent governor and make a big difference to our school and provide a voice for your child and other parents, this could be the role for you. You will get the opportunity to join one of the classes and take an in-depth look into the curriculum and join meetings where we discuss the school's progress on a whole.

The co-opted role would be that of a non-parent, preferably with an area of expertise such as accounting, business etc, who can give an outside perspective of the running and compliancy of the school. If you know anyone who may fit these criteria and would love to join our team, please spread the word.



Youth Council:

Cumberland Council have kindly invited our School Council to join them as part of their own Youth Council. Mrs Reay and the members of the School Council will be taking part in various meetings and activities as part of this role. This is a great way for them to really shine and become a voice for our school and learn lots of new skills.



Dodgeball:

Some of our Year 1 and Year 2 children have been invited to St Joseph's Catholic High School to join a Dodgeball competition with other schools in the area on Tuesday 14th January. They will be having an early dinner, then will be walking over with their dedicated teachers for a 12.15pm start and be back in time for normal pick up. Please note, we are unable to invite spectators to this event.



SEND coffee afternoon:

Shirley Murphy (Autism specialist) will be joining us on Friday 17th January in the School Hall for a SEND coffee afternoon at 1.30pm until 3pm. Shirley has a wealth of knowledge around SEND and currently runs the Autism Hub in the area and she will be providing lots of valuable information and advice for those who may need it and signpost to all the available services in the area. She invites all to join who think this may be beneficial – diagnosis or not.



Book Bus:

The Book Bus library service will be visiting us again on Tuesday 21st January. A selection of children will get to go on the bus and choose some lovely books for their class.





St Michael's Nursery and Infant School

Newsletter – January 2025

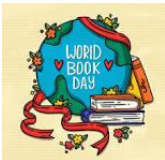


Cricket for KS1:

Chris Hodgson from Wright Sports Services will be joining our Year 1 and Year 2 class each Wednesday for 3 weeks starting on Wednesday 29th January to help build their cricket skills in preparation for their Kinder Cricket tournament in Summer.

Chinese New Year:

Week commencing 10th February, our whole school will be taking part in various activities and discussions around Chinese New Year and the Chinese culture. Here at St Michaels, we acknowledge the importance inclusivity and diversity and love to explore and learn through all cultures. We are very lucky to have such a welcoming community who thrive from learning from their peers.



World Book Day:

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 6th March. This is a whole school event and we welcome children to come to school in their pyjamas and bring along their favourite bedtime story.

Hawse End Residential:

Year 2 have been invited on another residential to Hawse End on Thursday 1st May after a successful year last year and confirmation of numbers. This residential is for a one-night stay with food provided and lots of activities. We invite parents and carers to come along to the meeting on Tuesday 1st April at 3.15pm in the school hall. This meeting is hosted by one of the activity coordinators from Hawse End and gives chance for parents to gather more information regarding the trip and ask any questions you may have. Itinerary and further details will be sent closer to the time. The trip will be added to SCO Pay and we kindly request a contribution of £100 towards the trip which can be paid all at once, or in instalments. We advise paying a minimum of £25.00 as a first payment. All payments should be made by Friday 25th April. The rest of the amount will be subsidised by school including cost of travel.



shutterstock.com - 313029911



St Michael's Nursery and Infant School
Newsletter – January 2025



Dates for the Diary

UDance for KS1

Each Monday

Tennis for KS1

Each Tuesday

Dodgeball for KS1

Tuesday 14th January

SEND Coffee afternoon

Friday 17th January at 1.30pm

Break up for Half-Term

Friday 14th February

World Book Day

Thursday 6th March

Parent meeting for Hawse End

Tuesday 1st April at 3.15pm